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Vol. 21, No. 17/February 24, 1999

Volunteers Magazine

NEWS FROM THE TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

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—Tom Mattingly

Early response to our fund raising campaign has been very good and we want to thank each of those who have made a donation. We now have about one half of the amount we expect to need for the Lettermen's *Wall of Fame.*

This fund raising is a new venture for most of us and we are learning quickly that it was easier to raise the first half than it is the second half. We appreciate all the enthusiastic remarks that have come in with the donations and also the help we have received from lettermen. If you have not made your donation, or if you would like to make a donation in memory of deceased lettermen, or to honor a living teammate or coach, please make check payable to The University of Tennessee.

Mail to:
Lettermen's "T" Club
Attention: Judy Constantine
P. O. Box 47
Knoxville, TN 37901

Please be sure to indicate that this contribution is to be used for the Lettermen's Wall. This is 100% tax deductible.

The Wall of Fame Development Committee

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Byrl Logan — Pat Shires
Don Bosch — Bob Davis
Gene Moeller — Mike LaSorsa
Hal Wantland

We have received a donation from Allen J. Williams - IN HONOR OF The 1951 and 1998 National Championship Football Teams.

Golf Tournament

The annual spring golf tournament has been set for April 23 at Willow Creek Country Club in West Knoxville. Saturday at 3 p.m. the annual Orange and White game will kick off at Neyland Stadium.

The cost of this year's event is $50 and it includes your meal, catered by Buddy's Barbecue, and your round of golf.

The tournament is set to begin with the lunch which starts at 11:30 a.m. followed by the shotgun tee-time at 1 p.m. Letters regarding the tournament are being prepared for T-Club members and should be mailed out shortly. Deadline for entry has been set for April 5. Make checks payable to the Lettermen's T-Club.

T CLUB

Below are donations made in memory of lettermen:

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CHAMPS Program

CONGRATULATIONS DECEMBER 1998 GRADUATES!

Pictured, from left to right: Eduardo Figueroa, Baseball, BS in Education, major in Sport Management; Ron Green, Football, BA, major in Sociology; Jason Grant, Football, BS in Business Administration, major in Finance; Steve Johnson, Football & Track, BS in Communications, major in Broadcasting; Sam Pinner, Football, BS, major in Geology; Brian Mitchell, Track, BA, major in Economics; Aaron Green, Basketball, BA, major in History, minor in Geography; Jeff Hall, Football, BS in Business Administration, major in Marketing, minor in Speech Communication; Brent Beavers, Football, BA, major in Sociology; Will Newman, Football, BA, major in Psychology; Larry Churchwell, Football, BA, major in Sociology. *Not pictured:* Tim Sewell, Football, BS in Communications, major in Broadcasting.

Academic Spotlight:

Men - Jeremy Racey (Track), senior, from Biloxi, Miss., has a 4.0 in Exercise Science; and Andy Crews (Tennis), sophomore, from Nashville, has a 3.88 GPA in Business.

Women - Rachel Newkirk (Soccer), sophomore, from Roswell, Ga., has a 3.80 GPA in Arts & Sciences.

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March 10, 1999

In Our next isue: SEC Indoor Track Championships; the Sullivan Award; SEC Tournament Wrap-up; Baseball home opener.

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A Look at the Vols...

Isiah Victor - Showing What He Can Do

A year of waiting and a year of learning are starting to pay dividends for Tennessee and Isiah Victor.

Victor arrived on campus in 1996 but was redshirted his freshman year. So the Hopkinsville, Ky., native then spent last season learning how to play Division I basketball.

The results thus far this season after 25 games are 11.4 points and 7.0 rebounds per outing. He has set career highs in scoring three times this season. His best outing of the season came in a 26-point, eight-rebound performance against Memphis. He also had the game-winning shot in that battle, which the Vols won 68-67. What a finish.

The Vols were trailing by one point with 34 seconds left in the game. The in-bounds pass went to Brandon Wharton who passed the ball to C.J. Black in the post. Memphis double-teamed Black leaving Victor open. Black shoveled him the ball, and Victor delivered with the game-winning jam.

"I saw my man go over for the double team and was looking for the ball," Victor said. "I jumped as high as I could, and I threw it down as hard as I could. I made sure I put it in."

Black himself thought he could score, but went to Victor instead.

"I could have probably scored, but their player rotated down on me," Black said. "Isiah was open for the jam, and I gave the ball to him."

Victor was also instrumental in the helping the Vols build an early 24-8 lead against the Tigers. He scored nine points during that span, a period of time which was topped by a Rashard Lee three-pointer and a Del Baker layup.

"I was pleased with Isiah's play," Tennessee head coach Jerry Green said after the game. "He keeps getting better and has a good game going for him right now."

This year appears to be the breakout season for Victor, but his first year in Tennessee's camp was a trying time.

Victor came to Knoxville believing he would be eligible his freshman season. Many weeks of speculation

Victor is learning to play at the SEC level and is becoming a consistent scoring threat for the Vols. Coach Green expects that Victor will only get better and with some more offseason workouts will put himself in position to be a top-level post player.

followed while he awaited eligibility approval from the NCAA. The decision was finally made to redshirt him.

"It was really hard considering I came in thinking I was going to play," Victor said. "I was on a day-to-day basis for a while and I did not know anything until game day. Then I was told I was going to play.

"I felt better when I finally found out I was not going to play that year. I finally knew where I stood."

A year of watching from the bench and practicing was not what Victor wanted.

"It was hard because I felt I could be helping the team," he said. "I missed playing. I did not stop playing altogether because I practiced and played in the local gyms. I really wanted to play in a game, because one of my dreams was to play college basketball. Then it got put on hold."

Victor finally was able to realize his dream last season. He played in all 29 games last season, averaging 7.7 points per game and grabbing 5.5 rebounds. His play earned him a spot on The *Knoxville News-Sentinel*'s Southeastern Conference All-Freshman team. He showed flashes of brilliance at times, but he also showed signs of being a freshman.

"Last season was sub-par for me," he said. "I sat on my freshman status last year and made excuses. I was pushing too much and trying to hard, instead of doing what comes naturally. I was wanting to do good, but was going about it all wrong."

The first few months of the season were a time when Victor was just learning how to play basketball in game situations. He had not played in a regulation game in more than a year.

"It was hard to get back in the flow of the game," he said. "In practice and in pick-up games, you form bad habits and they are hard to break. It took time to get out of the playground game. I was fouling a lot and walking. I had a lot of traveling calls when I first got back."

Watching from the sidelines was helpful during his redshirt season, but seeing game action is the best teacher.

"It helped me to watch, because you can learn from other people's mistakes," he said. "But sometimes you don't really learn until you make the mistakes yourself."

Victor must have learned because he is playing more consistently and with more confidence this season.

"Isiah offensively is one our most consistent players," Green said. "He needs to work on his defense and he gambles a little too much. The thing about him is that he can get it in from 12 feet away, not just on the low blocks. I'm very pleased with his progress. He's improved tremendously, but he can still get better."

Victor showed just how good he could play during an exchange in the 83-64 win over Cal-State Northridge.

Victor threw down a dunk and then was at the head of the Vol press. The Vols' pressure enabled Tony Harris to steal the in-bounds pass. Harris then dished the ball back to Victor for another jam.

"Our defensive intensity was picking up at that point," Harris said. "Isiah did a great job of staying at the head of the trap and was causing havoc."

Victor has a nose for the basketball and has shown the ability to score at will.

Part of Victor's development has been the competition he sees every time the Volunteers practice. Black, Charles Hathaway and Torrey Harris all provide a test for Victor. The four post players for the Vols make each other better.

"It is a big bonus to play against those guys everyday in practice," Victor said. "They push hard everyday. They are big and strong and beat on you. We have some of the best post players in the conference."

Having depth in the post also pays dividends in the game.

"You don't have to worry about getting tired," Victor said. "It is good for us to run fresh legs in and out, because we like to press and have a fast-paced game."

Victor also put together a strong stretch during SEC play this season. During a six-game span he averaged 15 points and eight rebounds. He hit all nine of his field goal attempts in his sizzling 21-point performance against Florida on Jan. 23.

That's why Vol fans are saying "Hail to the Victor" whenever he's on the court.

— Rob Hardin

"ISIAH OFFENSIVELY IS ONE OUR MOST CONSISTENT PLAYERS. HE NEEDS TO WORK ON HIS DEFENSE AND HE GAMBLES A LITTLE TOO MUCH. THE THING ABOUT HIM IS THAT HE CAN GET IT IN FROM 12 FEET AWAY, NOT JUST ON THE LOW BLOCKS. I'M VERY PLEASED WITH HIS PROGRESS. HE'S IMPROVED TREMENDOUSLY, BUT HE CAN STILL GET BETTER."

— JERRY GREEN

FROM THE HARDWOOD...
Vols pull into tie in SEC East with win

South Carolina gave Tennessee all it could handle for 30 minutes Feb. 20 at Frank McGuire Arena in Columbia.

But for the final 10 minutes, the Vols showed they are indeed a team to be reckoned with come SEC and NCAA Tournament time.

Tennessee outscored the Gamecocks 18-4 over the final 10 minutes of the game to post a 65-50 victory.

"We just turned it up," sophomore Isiah Victor said.

Tony Harris agreed.

"When we turn it on like we did in the second half, it's scary how good we can be," Harris said.

Harris was a key ingredient in the Vols' second-half performance, as he scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half.

But the Vol who stepped up the most was forward Rashard Lee. With Tennessee's offense struggling in the first half, Lee picked the Vols up and kept them in the game. He scored nine of the Vols' 24 points.

Tennessee shot only 35 percent from the field in the first half but only trailed by one at the break.

The second half was a different story.

The Vols found themselves down 39-36 with 12:27 left on the clock. Then the Vols began to put things together, as a 3-pointer from Lee tied the game.

On South Carolina's ensuing possession, Hathaway tipped a pass into the Vol front court, and Brandon Wharton raced in for a layup. He was fouled on the play, canned the free throw, and the Vols led 42-39.

B.J. McKie tied the game with a 3-pointer, but Lee answered with one of his four 3-pointers in the game to push the lead back to three. The lead was down to one but Harris and Lee hit back-to-back 3-pointers to give Tennessee a 53-46 lead with 7:51 on the clock.

South Carolina was only able to put four more points on the board, and the Vols continued to add to their lead.

Tennessee finished the half shooting 58 percent from the field and 46 percent for the game.

Wharton added 13 points, and junior C.J. Black blocked one shot to move past Reggie Johnson on the all-time shot block list at UT. Black now has 152 for his career.

—Rob Hardin

TENNESSEE 65, SOUTH CAROLINA 50.

TENNESSEE 65 (19-7, 10-4)

Yarbrough 0-4 0-0 0, Black 1-4 2-2 4, Tor Harris 0-0 0-0 0, Ton Harris 5-7 2-2 16, Wharton 5-15 1-1 13, Lee 8-10 2-2 22, Baker 0-1 0-0 0, Davis 0-0 0-0 0, Victor 2-3 2-2 6, Hathaway 1-3 2-2 4. Totals 22-47 11-11 65.

South Carolina 50 (7-18, 2-12)

Gallman 2-8 0-0 4, Grant 0-4 0-0 0, Johnson 2-5 2-2 6, McKie 4-13 1-2 11, Lucas 1-6 1-2 3, Ross 1-3 1-2 3, Rouse 1-2 0-0 3, Davis 5-8 2-2 16, Nix 0-0 0-0 0, Kinloch 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 18-53 7-10 50.

Halftime-South Carolina 25-24. **3-point goals-**Tennessee 10-20 (Yarbrough 0-2, Ton Harris 4-4, Wharton 2-8, Lee 4-5, Baker 0-1), So. Carolina 7-17 (Grant 0-4, McKie 2-3, Lucas 0-2, Ross 0-1,

Rashard came off of the bench to spark the Vol attack as he scored seven of the Vols first nine points. He tallied nine points by halftime and finished the game with 22, a season-high for Lee. UT file photo.

Rouse 1-2, Davis 4-5). **Fouled out**-None. **Rebounds**-Tennessee 29 (Lee 6), So. Carolina 34 (Gallman 8). **Assists**-Tennessee 9 (Yarbrough 2, Wharton 2, Ton. Harris 2, Lee 2), So. Carolina 10 (McKie 5). **Total fouls**--Tennessee 12, So. Carolina 10. **Technical foul**--Tennessee bench. **A**--7227.

TENNESSEE 69, MISSISSIPPI 67

TENNESSEE (17-7, 9-4)

Harris 4-11 7-11 17, Wharton 8-14 6-8 25, Yarbrough 4-8 0-0 8, Black 4-4 1-2 9, Hathaway 0-2 1-2 1, Lee 0-3 2-4 2, Davis 0-1 0-0 0, Harris 0-1 1-2 1, Victor 2-3 2-2 6. Totals 22-47 20-31 69.

Mississippi (17-9, 8-6)

Flanigan 0-6 3-4 3, White 1-7 3-6 6, Hicks 2-3 3-6 7, Carter 8-17 1-2 20, Lockhart 8-12 0-1 16, Smith 4-6 4-10 12, Harrison 1-2 0-0 3, Brown 0-1 0-0 0, Williams 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 24-55 14-29 67.

Halftime--Mississippi 31, Tennessee 25. **3-point goals**--Tennessee 5-17 (Harris 2-6, Wharton 3-7, Yarbrough 0-2, Lee 0-2), Mississippi 5-18 (Flanigan 0-2, White 1-3, Carter 3-9, Harrison 1-2, Brown 0-1, Williams 0-1). **Fouled out**--Harris. **Rebounds**--Tennessee 36 (Harris 8), Mississippi 36 (Lockhart 12). **Assists**--Tennessee 12 (Harris 6), Mississippi 16 (Flanigan, Lockhart, Harrison 4). **Total fouls**--Tennessee 24, Mississippi 22. **A**--7,476.

TENNESSEE 91, No. 23 FLORIDA 56

Florida (16-6, 7-5)

Miller 4-7 1-1 10, Haslam 2-8 1-3 5, Dupay 1-5 1-2 4, Weaks 4-10 0-0 12, Stolt 1-6 0-0 3, Wright 1-6 1-2 4, Shannon 0-2 4-5 4, Halton 2-3 0-0 4, Parker 2-5 0-0 4, Nanaji 2-7 2-2 6. Totals 19-59 10-15 56.

TENNESSEE (15-7, 7-4)

Yarbrough 6-8 0-1 15, Black 4-5 2-3 10, T. Harris 0-1 0-0 0, Wharton 7-10 4-4 20, A. Harris 3-8 4-4 11, Victor 6-10 5-10 17, Lee 1-5 2-2 5, Hathaway 1-2 6-7 8, Baker 0-1 0-0 0, Davis 2-5 0-0 5, Austin 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-55 23-31 91.

Halftime--Tennessee 39, Florida 24. **3-point goals**--Florida 8-27 (Shannon 0-2, Dupay 1-4, Halton 0-1, Wright 1-1, Stoldt 1-5, Parker 0-2, Weaks 4-10, Miller 1-2), Tennessee 8-17 (A. Harris 1-3, Lee 1-3, Baker 0-1, Yarbrough 3-3, Davis 1-2, Wharton 2-5). **Fouled out**--Weaks. **Rebounds**--Florida 29 (Haslam, Stolt 4), Tennessee 44 (Hathaway 8). **Assists**--Florida 10 (Miller, Dupay 3), Tennessee 21 (A. Harris 8). **Total fouls**--Florida 25, Tennessee 16. **A**--15,202.

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MEN'S SEC STANDINGS

DIVISION	CONFERENCE W	CONFERENCE L	OVERALL W	OVERALL L	DIVISION	CONFERENCE W	CONFERENCE L	OVERALL W	OVERALL L
	EAST					WEST			
Kentucky	10	4	21	7	Auburn	13	1	25	1
Tennessee	10	4	18	7	Arkansas	8	6	19	8
Florida	9	5	18	6	Miss. St.	8	6	18	9
Georgia	6	8	15	11	Ole Miss	7	7	17	10
Vanderbilt	4	10	13	13	Alabama	4	10	14	13
S. Carolina	2	12	7	19	LSU	3	10	11	12

As of 2-22-99

1999 SEC TOURNAMENT BRACKET

Game two of a session begins 30 minutes after first game.

Times are Eastern and subject to change.

Green's Fast Break...

February Hoops

Comments of Tennessee head basketball coach Jerry Green after a 65-50 win at South Carolina.

In the first half, both defenses were good, and we took South Carolina's best shot. South Carolina made some field goals, rebounded well and played excellent defense.

We were down by one point at the half. The big thing in the first half was that we gave up 11 offensive rebounds and did not shoot the ball well. We did not get much help from our guards on the long rebounds. All we needed to do was regroup and come back strong in the second half.

In the second half our defense was consistent, and Rashard Lee just picked us up on his shoulders. He really carried us, but both Brandon Wharton and Tony Harris made some shots for us.

They double-teamed the ball when it went down into the low block, but our post players did a good job of kicking it back out.

Our post players also did a good job of skipping the ball across the defense to the open man.

We were patient with our offense which enabled us to get some good looks at the basket. We dug in defensively and made some stops.

This win puts us at 18-7 and should get us in the NCAA Tournament. I would be disappointed if we didn't get in right now.

The big thing is that Tennessee has not been to the NCAA Tournament two years in a row since 1982 and 1983. It is time for us to get back, but we can't overlook the rest of the regular season.

We had some good looks at the basket. Brandon made some shots but Rashard put us on his shoulders and carried us against South Carolina when our post players struggled. Rashard is a fine basketball player and also picked us up.

When Rashard slows down and knows what he is going to do before he starts, he can really be a special player.

It was good to see us shoot 58 percent from the field in the second half. If we shoot around 50 percent, our defense has been good enough to keep us in the game. Offensively, we have struggled at times, but if our offense can get consistent we can be a special team.

We have worked on keeping our composure when our post players get double-teamed. So many people are double-teaming Isiah Victor, C.J. Black and Charles Hathaway. We have to start working on getting the ball back out to our perimeter players.

That actually gives us an opportunity to kick the ball back out to an open man. We have worked hard on being able to do that.

We got looks at the basket at the end of the game and that enabled us to open up a lead. We were more balanced and the scoring was balanced between our post and perimeter players.

We just dug in defensively down the stretch as well. I don't remember South Carolina having an easy shot in the last five minutes. Our defense was active and the post players did a good job of helping each other out.

We did a much better job of containing B.J. McKie coming off screens and working through the screens. McKie is a special player and you can't hope to stop him, but we were able to slow him down.

— Jerry Green

We have worked on keeping our composure when our post players get double-teamed. So many people are double-teaming Isiah Victor, C.J. Black and Charles Hathaway. We have to start working on getting the ball back out to our perimeter players.

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Ben Byrd on the Vols...
Ron Widby Did It All

Athletic scholarships cost money, and the University of Tennessee has never gotten a better bargain than when Knoxville's George Ronald Widby signed a Vol football grant-in-aid in 1963.

For the price of one, the Vols got one of the best punters in grid history, an All-America basketball player who led the Orange cagers to their first Southeastern Conference championship in 23 years, and a hard-hitting first baseman for the baseball team.

Ron Widby was a throwback to another era. In the early years of varsity sports on The Hill, it was common practice for the better athletes to wear more than one uniform. Seasons didn't overlap then, and there were no athletic grants. Chances were that the best football player would also be good basketball players, or baseball players, or both. That circumstance held true through the late 1930s, when the multi-talented Bob Foxx won the distinction in all three of those team sports.

But the age of specialization had set in by the time Widby came out of Knoxville's Fulton High School carrying a bagful of varsity letters.

He was signed to a football scholarship because that was the only way he could be freed up to participate in the other sports. Basketball signees cannot play football, and baseball signees cannot play either basketball or football, but football signees can play anything. The rule is on the books to keep schools from loading up on football players by signing them to grants in lower revenue sports.

Widby earned his scholarship all right. He averaged 42.3 yards per punt in three varsity seasons (1964-65-66), good enough for third place behind Jimmy Colquitt and Craig Colquitt on the all-time Vol list. He was so good at it that he later spent several seasons in the National Football League punting for the Dallas Cowboys and the Green Bay Packers.

But basketball was the sport on which he left his deepest imprint. A 6-4 forward with a soft shooting touch, he broke into Coach Ray Mears' starting lineup as a sophomore (freshmen weren't eligible then) and was a fixture there for three triumphant seasons. In playing style, he was very much like A.W. Davis, who was a senior when Ron was a sophomore. Like Davis he always appeared to be pressure-proof during even the most stressful of times.

When Davis departed, Mears built his offense around Widby, sometimes moving him from his spot on the wing into the high post to take advantage of his rebounding ability and in-close offensive skills. He responded by leading the team in scoring in both the 1965-66 and 1966-67 seasons. Despite the relatively slow tempo used by the Vols in his day, he still ranks No. 10 on UT's all-time scoring list with a career total of 1432 points, and that was accomplished in only three seasons.

In 1966-67, while leading the famed "Fearless Five" to the conference crown, Widby broke Carl Widseth's 21-year-old school single-game scoring record with a 50-point performance against Louisiana State at Stokely Center.

Even so, he probably would have traded all those baskets for the one that didn't swish when the '67 Vols made the school's first NCAA Tournament appearance against Dayton University that March in Evanston, Ill. After a furious battle in which neither team was able to establish supremacy, the Flyers took a one-point lead with under 30 seconds left to play. The Vols set up a play that was designed for Widby to take the last shot, with time for an offensive rebound if he missed. But Dayton's defense sniffed it out and forced the Vol captain out beyond his normal range. He had a good go at it, the ball squirming around the rim a couple of times before falling off, and Dayton won, 53-52.

Widby was an ideal leader for the '67 Vol cagers, whose other starters were underclassmen Tom Hendrix, Tom Boerwinkle, Bill Justus and Bill Hann. His steady presence helped the younger players through the tough patches. And he was one of the most modest of great athletes this writer has known. He was entirely without conceit.

Widby's accomplishments in baseball and golf were less advertised than his exploits on the gridiron and hardwood, but he was top drawer in those sports also. Still is, it seems, when it comes to golf. He became a golf pro in the Dallas area some years, ago and has recorded some money-winning finishes in PGA Senior Tour events.

Former Vol
Rodney Woods (1973-75)

Rodney Woods came to the University of Tennessee from Four Mile, Ky., and was a three-year starter on Ray Mears-coached teams from 1973-74.

He averaged 9.8 points per game as a sophomore and junior and 8.7 as a senior.

He had a school-record 227 assists as a senior in 1974-75 and is second on the career assists list with 525, behind only Johnny Darden. He was the SEC leader in assists in all three varsity campaigns.

He also won the best team player, "Team Before Self," award all of three of his varsity years.

He is now head basketball coach and athletic director at Wayne County High in Monticello, Ky.

Rodney Woods ran the point for Ray Mears from 1973-75 and was a part of teams which won 50 games in a three-year span.

Slade Added to Football Staff

The Tennessee Vols football staff was completed and primed to zero in on spring practice with the hiring of Larry Slade to serve as the Vols' defensive backfield coach.

The secondary coach at Texas A&M for the past five years, Slade will be in charge of a Vol unit that returns three starters from last season's National Championship team.

Slade, 47, is a native of Pecham, N.C., who was twice named All-West Virginia while playing guard at Shepherd College in the early 1970s.

His coaching career began at his alma mater with subsequent stops at Richmond, Howard, Southern Illinois, Washington and Maryland. His six-year stay as secondary coach at Washington was highlighted by a National Championship season in 1991, during which the Huskies ranked No. 1 in NCAA statistics for pass efficiency defense.

Slade left Washington in 1992 for Maryland to serve as Defensive Coordinator, a post he held for two seasons before moving to Texas A&M. His 1997 Aggie secondary gave up only three touchdowns by passing, tops in the nation.

Men's Track Results

The Tennessee track team split up this weekend and traveled to the Kroger Classic at Virginia Tech and the US West Invitational at the Air Force Academy in Colorado.

At Virginia Tech's Kroger Indoor Invitational, Tim Bell won first in the high jump by clearing 6-11 and Russell Johnson finished third in the pole vault (16-8 3/4) behind former Tennessee vaulter Tim Mack's height of 18-6 3/4. Also in the pole vault, both Clint Binder and Tim O'Hare set season-best marks. Darwin Walker finished second in the shot put with a throw of 58-8.

In Colorado, Dawane Wallace took first-place in the 60M Hurdles with a provisional qualifying time of 7.72, an improvement on his season best. Tyrone Graham recorded a season best time of 6.75 in the 60M Dash and Russell Frye improved upon his time in the 200M Dash with an altitude time of 21.53. In the 400M Dash, Dwayne Bell ran a 47.35 (altitude time) to improve upon his season best and Camron Howard placed third in the long jump (24-05).

Tennis Drops First Match of Season

The No. 12 Tennessee tennis team (5-1) dropped its first match of the year to No. 16 Harvard on Sunday. The Vols were defeated 6-1 by the Crimson in the Harvard Invitational in Boston.

Tennessee battled highly-touted Harvard in doubles play. However, the Vols came up empty as the Crimson won all three matches and the doubles point. At No. 1 doubles, Tennessee's Chad Copenhaver and Mark Way lost to fifth-ranked James Blake and Kunj Majmudar 8-6. In No. 2 doubles, Vols Peter Handoyo and Mark Fitzpatrick were defeated by No. 8 Scott Clark and Mike Passarella 8-6. At No. 3 doubles, Mark Parsons and Paul Podbury dropped their match to John Doran and Joe Green 8-6.

The Volunteers didn't fare much better in singles. The men in Orange and White only took one of six singles matches. At No. 1 singles, No. 10 Handoyo was defeated by James Blake, the top-ranked player in the nation, 7-5, 6-2. Handoyo's record is 30-8. In No. 2 singles, Way was beaten by No. 55 Majmudar 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-0. No. 46 Parsons fell to Doran 6-3, 7-5 in No. 3 singles. Podbury lost a close one at No. 4 doubles to Passarella 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3). True freshman Adam Carey posted Tennessee's lone win of the day at No. 5 singles. Carey defeated Green 6-2, 6-2 to give the Vols' their point. At No. 6 singles, Fitzpatrick lost a three-setter to Clark 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

Volleyball Inks Five Newcomers

Tennessee head volleyball coach Rob Patrick has announced the signings of Kristen Clements (Manhattan, Ill./Lincoln-Way), Jennifer Elliott (Kyle, Texas/Jack C. Hays), Janelle Hester (Davenport, Iowa/Davenport Central), Laura Paul (Ballwin, Mo./St. Louis Parkway West/SW Missouri State-West Plains), and Kelli Scott (Peoria, Ariz./Centennial) to national letters of intent to join the Lady Vols' volleyball program for the 1999-2000 academic year.

Women's Tennis Rolls over Michigan

The Lady Vols tennis team handed Michigan its worst defeat of the season as they gave the Wolverines a 9-0 loss at the Goodfriend Tennis Center in Knoxville on Sunday. The victory improved the Lady Vols to 4-2 overall (1-2 SEC) while Michigan fell to 1-2 on the season. In singles competition, only one of the six matches failed to go all three sets. Junior Candy Reid (Surrey, England) registered her third consecutive singles victory of the dual season with a 6-0, 6-2 win over Maya Canfield at No. 6. At the No. 2 position, freshman Alison Ojeda (San Antonio, Texas) recorded her fifth win of the season as she defeated Brooke Hart, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1. Freshman Meiling Parks (Abilene, Texas) had a fine outing as she notched her first singles win of the season, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 at No. 5 over Jen Boylan.

The duo of Ojeda and Reid improved to 4-2 on the season with a 9-7 decision over Szandra Fuzesi and Boylan at No. 2 doubles. Parks and senior Emily Woodside (Clinton, S.C.) notched their second win of the weekend with a 8-4 victory over Jen Vaughn and Canfield at the No. 3 position.

—Volunteers Magazine Staff

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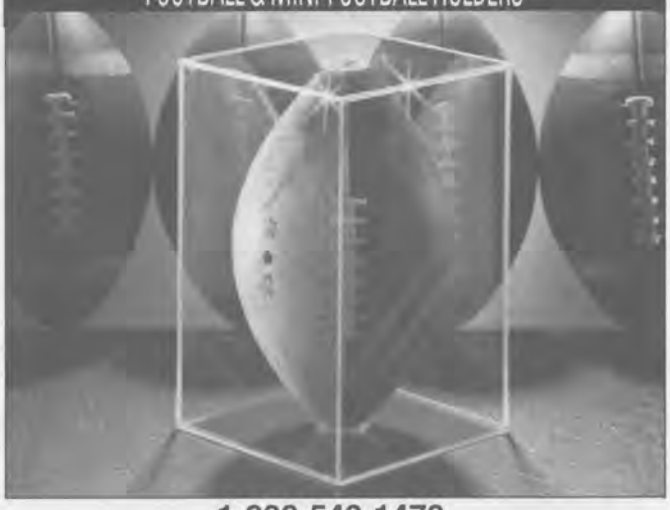

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THIS WEEK IN BIG ORANGE COUNTRY

When people speak of the University of Tennessee and its athletes, many names come to mind over the years like Hank Lauricella, John Majors, Bob Johnson, Gene McEver, Willie Gault, Peyton Manning, Bernard King, Ernie Grunfeld, Lawrence Johnson, Jeremy Linn and an ever-growing list on the men's side. On the women's side, there are Bridgette Gordon, Sheila Frost, Catherine Byrne and Michelle Marciniak, to name just a few of an equally great number.

Another name will soon be added to that list as she ends her career at Tennessee. You read it correctly -- as she ends her career.

Men's and women's sports have arguably not been compared because of the level of playing field that each must face.

Whenever the Lady Vols complete their 1998-99 basketball season, Chamique Holdsclaw will cap a career as the Lady Vols' most decorated and noticeable athlete in the program's history. There are other women who have brought fame and notoriety to the program, but none with quite the impact Holdsclaw has had.

Having played and won in three straght NCAA Championship games, Holdsclaw and teammate Kellie Jolly have the chance to become the first to compete (and possibly win) in an NCAA-record four straight championship games.

Holdsclaw came into this season second on the all-time lists in Lady Vol history in rebounding and in scoring. She now owns those records as well. She passed Gordon (2,450) on Dec. 17, 1998, with her first bucket of the game in a 24-point performance in a win over Arkansas.

Coach Pat Summitt was asked about the accomplishments of Holdsclaw and in particular the scoring mark. "I never thought it would happen in my career," coach Summitt said of the record, "but I also never thought I would have as special a player as Chamique."

Holdsclaw was asked about the mark, but her comment was focused on her teammates as she said, "I just want to win another championship."

Holdsclaw is again a candidate for several national awards, two of which came at ESPN's ESPY Awards. She brought home two of the coveted awards, including Female Athlete of the Year and Women's College Basketball Performer of the Year (1997-98).

Holdsclaw is a three-time All-America and can tie former Southern Cal player Cheryl Miller as the only four-time All-America.

Her future seems limitless in a sport in which is on the rise nationally and professionally. With the retirement of Michael Jordan from the NBA, basketball fans and the NBA itself are looking for someone to step up and take the torch that Jordan carried for years.

We are not suggesting that she will be that person, only that there is a need for professional basketball to have someone bring back the interest to the fans and that Holdsclaw has the potential to fill that void.

When Holdsclaw leaves, she will leave a legacy that few people ever approach on an athletic level, and the University of Tennessee has been blessed in the fact that it has had two of the biggest names in collegiate athletics, Manning being the other, pass through its halls in a matter of a few years. The two athletes will be forever linked for what they have done for Tennessee.

Moreso, when Holdsclaw leaves she could leave as one of which many observers proclaim as arguably the greatest player ever to play the women's game.

The fans in Big Orange Country will surely miss her presence and what she has brought to the program. She has been fun to watch and she has left a lasting impression on all of those who have covered Lady Vol basketball. For that we thank her for those memories.

—Donnell Field

Chamique Holdsclaw's Accomplishments

Three-time All-America
Three-time All-SEC
Three-time All-SEC Tournament Team member
Two-time SEC Player of the Year
1996-97 Sports Illustrated Woman's Sports Player of the Year
MVP of the 1997 Midwest NCAA Tournament
Voted 1997 USA Basketball Female Athlete of the Year
1997-98 Nominee for the Sullivan Amateur Athlete of the Year Award
Earned unanimous Player of the Year honors selected by Rawlings/WBCA, Naismith, Associated Press, U.S. Basketball Writers, The Sporting News, Frontier/State Farm
Was named the Most Valuable Player of both the 1998 Final Four and the Mideast Regionals
Member of the U.S. National Team
Was the cover girl this summer for an issue of SLAM, a magazine which focuses on the NBA
Recipient of the Honda-Broderick Cup Award, presented to the Outstanding 1998 NCAA Female Athlete of the Year
Winner of both the 1997 and 1998 Honda Awards for basketball
All-Time Lady Vol scoring leader
All-time Lady Vol rebounding leader
Second all-time in women's NCAA Tournament rebounding
1999 James E. Sullivan Award winner
Other honors included the Victor Award (benefiting the City of Hope)

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1999 Football Tickets

Applications for new orders, as well as renewal applications for existing ticket accounts, will be mailed around April 1. The deadline for returning completed applications is May 1. Watch your mail in late March.

1999 Point System Minimums

The Office of Athletic Development recently mailed important orange flyers to all donors to the Volunteer Athletic Scholarship Fund. These flyers contain the estimated VASF point system donation minimums for donor benefits for the 1999 football season.

Contact the Athletic Development office at (423) 974-1218 for more details.

The Big Dance

The basketball team has placed itself within reach of the SEC East title as the regular season winds down. Should Jerry Green's charges be fortunate enough to receive a bid to the NCAA Tournament, here is what will happen.

Each participating institution receives 350 tickets to the first and second rounds. Official party, band, cheerleaders and player families are filled first from those 350 tickets. The VASF projects that, if it is able to secure tickets for donors, no more than 100 tickets will be acquired. Tickets will be distributed using the donor point system.

Neither the Ticket Office nor the VASF office anticipate having any tickets for sale to the general public. **Please do not call these offices.** Below is a list of the eight first and second round sites, including their phone numbers if tickets are still available as of press time (Feb. 20).

Dates	Locations	Tickets
March 11 & 13	Orlando, Fla. (Orlando Arena)	407/849-2020
March 11 & 13	Indianapolis, Ind. (RCA Dome)	317/239-5151
March 11 & 13	Seattle, Wash. (Key Arena)	206/543-2200
March 11 & 13	Denver, Colo. (McNichols Arena)	SOLD OUT
March 12 & 14	Boston, Mass. (Fleet Center)	SOLD OUT
March 12 & 14	Charlotte, N.C. (Charlotte Coliseum)	704/357-4801
March 12 & 14	Milwaukee, Wis. (Bradley Center)	414/288-7217
March 12 & 14	New Orleans, La. (Louisiana Superdome)	504/587-3663

If Tennessee receives a bid to the NIT, please call the Ticket Office to charge by phone in the days after the announcement is made.

Baseball Season is Here

The ticket booth at Lindsey Nelson Stadium will open two hours before the first pitch for each home game this season. Cash only at the ticket booth please. Game-by-game ticket prices are $5 for reserved seats while general admission seats are $3 for adults and $1 for students 17-years-old and under. Jr. Vols members may get in free for any game. You may also charge your tickets in advance and have them waiting on you at Will Call if you like. Call the Ticket office at (423) 656-1200 for more details.

Baseball Sundays are Special

For each of the seven home games on Sundays this season, Tennessee athletics has two special somethings for you. First, Sunday is Fan Appreciation Day sponsored by Fazoli's. Fans may meet and greet their favorite Vols in the Lindsey Nelson Stadium outfield. Also, every Sunday is Little League Day, as all Little League players, in uniform, will receive one general admission ticket free.

Baseball Birthday Parties

This year kids of all ages will have the opportunity to celebrate their birthdays in style with Tennessee baseball. Each complete Baseball Birthday Party includes tickets and beverages for 12. Also included are three large pizzas, an autographed baseball, a visit by a Tennessee player or coach, and both public address and message board recognition during the game. Each complete birthday party is $85. Contact the Marketing office at (423) 974-1734 to reserve your party today.

The Junior Vols

Parents, take note of this club and how it can benefit your younger Volunteer fans. The University of Tennessee and Chick-fil-A have formed an elite organization offering younger Vol supporters the chance to be a part of something special.The club is known as the Junior Vols and membership is limited to girls and boys ages 13-years-old and under.

For the annual fee of $25, members of the Junior Vols club will receive the official Junior Vols T-shirt and membership card, a birthday card from Smokey, a complimentary subscription to the Junior Vols newsletter (*Paw Prints*) and free admission into certain Tennessee Olympic home sports events, including baseball, swimming, track & field, tennis and golf.

This is an opportunity to provide your special someone with the ability to support the Volunteer athletic programs through membership in the Junior Vols. For more information about this official UT kids club, contact the Marketing office at (423) 974-1734.

Court for Sale

Volunteer fans, the University of Tennessee is selling the playing court from Thompson-Boling Arena. The pieces come in five different sizes and are mounted on a plaque. If you want more information on how you can obtain a piece of Big Orange Country Tennessee Basketball history, call toll free (877) UT-COURT (882-6878).

— Compiled by Steve Sams

Lady Vol Hoop News...
Seniors win in home finale 89-53

The clock was not a factor in this affair as the Lady Vols trailed only once in the game at 9-7 with 16:02 to go, but then went on a 25-3 run over the next eight minutes to assure the Lady Vols and the seniors of the win. With the 89-53 triumph, Chamique Holdsclaw and Kellie Jolly closed out their home careers while winning a total of 125 games against only 15 defeats.

Vanderbilt came to Thompson-Boling Arena with confidence after losing to the Lady Vols by only six (66-60) just 11 days earlier, but what they did not count on was a team more rested and better prepared.

Tennessee shot just over 52 percent from the floor for the game and placed four players in double figures led by Holdsclaw's game-high 25 points and 12 boards. They dominated statistically as they outrebounded the Commodores 40-34, were 5-of-7 from 3-point range and won the points in the paint battle at 52-28. They had 18 second chance points compared to only 8 for Vanderbilt.

Tennessee held the Commodores to 35.4 percent from the floor hitting on 17-of-48. The Commodores edged the Lady Vols in the free throw percentage by going 16-for-25 while Tennessee was 16-for-26 from the charity stripes.

Vanderbilt went much of the game with a 2-3 zone defense hoping to stymie the Lady Vol tempo. At times it worked as Tennessee had trouble in spurts; while at other times they found open passing lanes and used their quickness to create some easy baskets.

Vandy's zone forced Tennessee to take some outside shots which the Lady Vols obliged them by hitting five 3-pointers and hit on eight other shots from just inside the arc.

Vanderbilt never seemed to get on track in the first half as they scored only 10-points over the final 16 minutes of the half. Meanwhile, Tennessee had built a commanding 26-point lead 45-19 going into the locker room

Vanderbilt came out to begin the second half playing with a little more intensity, or at least with a more direct cause to score. The Commodores opened the half outscoring Tennessee 9-3 in the first three minutes. The Lady Vols responded after Coach Summitt called a timeout.

With the lead down to 20 at 48-28, Tennessee began chipping away as freshman Michelle Snow began finding her scoring touch scoring nine of Tennessee's 14 points over the next four minutes as the lead now swelled to 29 (59-30).

Much of the change came as Tennessee stepped up its defensive intensity and forced Vandy into numerous turnovers (Vanderbilt committed 24 on the night). Snow teamed up with Holdsclaw and Catchings as they began poking holes in the zone defense. Missed shots were converted to points while Tennessee continued to extend the lead. Snow scored 13 second-half points while Holdsclaw tallied five points and five rebounds. Fellow senior teammate Kellie Jolly came alive in the scoring column the second half as she bombed in two 3-pointers and finsihed the night with 9 points and five assists.

As they finished their careers at home, fans watched as the senior duo went out the same way they came in - winners. As Holdsclaw and Jolly finally made their way to the bench Tennessee was building the lead to 36 as Niya Butts capped the night off a steal and layin to produce the final margin at 89-53.

During the post-game press conference Holdsclaw said that she and Jolly had 10 more games to go and that this was not a good-bye night, but just the end of their regular season careers at home. They also took turns making fun of the other as Holdsclaw commented to Jolly after the game that she had no turnovers while Jolly had two. As for Jolly, she said, "It was nice to see you hit those 3-pointers," for which laughter erupted from the audience. Even funnier was Vanderbilt Coach Jim Foster's comment, "Every coach in America would like to be where I am right now -- having played those two for the last time at home."

These two will be forever linked in Lady Vol history as two of the most winning players in Lady Vol basketball history. During their introductions it was announced that during their careers they compiled a 124-15 record (.892 winning percentage), 3 NCAA titles, having played before 1.3 million fans in 24 states and a chance to win an unprecedented four NCAA titles in four appearances. Everything will have to fall into place for that to occur, but these two will not just give in to anyone -- if the title is to be won by someone else they are going to have to take it away from Tennessee.

POSTGAME NOTES: Holdsclaw was honored the day of the Vanderbilt game by the AAU and the University of Tennessee as she garnered another honor by winning the 1999 James E. Sullivan Award, given to the nation's top amateur athlete. We will have a full feature on that award and more on Holdsclaw and Jolly in our next issue. Tennessee had its 24-game winning streak ended in a 72-69 loss at LSU Sunday afternoon, to end the regular season 25-2.

—Donnell Field

TENNESSEE 89, VANDERBILT 53

Vanderbilt (13-12, 6-7)
Klimesova 4-6 0-2 8, Holmes 5-11 1-3 11, Janky 0-1 2-2 2, Respondek 3-11 2-2 9, Smith 3-6 1-2 9, Redman 0-4 0-0 0, Hammon 1-4 0-0 2, Strahinic 0-0 0-0 0, Ostendorf 1-1 3-6 5, Washington 0-0 1-2 1, Danker 0-4 2-2 2, Storey 0-0 4-4 4. Totals 17-48 16-25 53.
TENNESSEE (25-1, 13-0)
Holdsclaw 10-20 3-4 25, Catchings 6-11 6-7 18, Snow 7-8 3-4 17, Jolly 3-7 1-2 9, Randall 4-11 2-4 10, Butts 1-2 0-2 2, Canon 0-0 0-0 0, Edwards 1-1 1-2 3, Clement 1-2 0-0 3, Pillow 1-3 0-1 2. Totals 34-65 16-26 89.
Halftime--Tennessee 45-19. **3-point--**Vanderbilt 3-10 (Respondek 1-3, Smith 2-5, Redman 0-2), Tennessee 5-7 (Holdsclaw 2-2, Catchings 0-1, Jolly 2-3, Clement 1-1). **Fouled out--**Pillow, Snow. **Rebounds--**Vanderbilt 34 (Klimesova 8, Holmes 8), Tennessee 40 (Holdsclaw 12). **Assists--**Vanderbilt 10 (Smith 4), Tennessee 17 (Jolly 5). **Total fouls--**Vanderbilt 18, Tennessee 19. **A--**20,068.

TENNESSEE 113, MEMPHIS 39

Memphis (17-7)
Phillips 0-6 0-0 0, Bush 2-6 0-0 4, Whitmore 7-11 5-5 20, Herron 0-3 0-0 0, Reed 5-8 0-0 11, Collins 0-3 0-0 0, Bell 0-0 0-0 0, Blaylock 0-0 0-0 0, Jackson 1-4 0-0 3, Abraham 0-0 1-2 1, Whitfield 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 15-41 6-7 39.
TENNESSEE (24-1)
Holdsclaw 8-15 7-9 23, Catchings 10-17 3-5 23, Snow 5-8 4-8 14, Jolly 3-4 1-1 8, Randall 8-16 2-6 18, Butts 2-3 0-0 4, Canon 0-1 0-0 0, Edwards 0-0 1-2 1, Clement 3-7 9-12 15, Pillow 3-5 1-2 7. Totals 42-76 28-45 113.
Halftime--Tennessee 57-24. **3-point--**Memphis 3-6 (Phillips 0-1, Whitmore 1-2, Reed 1-1, Jackson 1-2), Tennessee 1-6 (Holdsclaw 0-1, Catchings 0-3, Jolly 1-1, Clement 0-1). **Fouled out--**Whitmore, Reed, Abraham. **Rebounds--**Memphis 24 (Bush 8), Tennessee 43 (Snow 15). **Assists-**Memphis 9 (Phillips 2, Reed 2, Collins 2), Tennessee 18 (Catchings 7). **Totals fouls-** Memphis 30, Tennessee 9. **A--**10,150.

TENNESSEE 71, AUBURN 63

TENNESSEE 71 (23-1, 12-0)
Holdsclaw 7-15 5-6 19, Catchings 1-10 4-4 6, Snow 3-5 4-6 10, Jolly 2-4 2-2 7, Randall 3-9 2-4 8, Butts 1-2 1-2 3, Clement 2-4 0-0 5, Pillow 4-4 5-6 13. Totals 23-53 23-30 71.
AUBURN 63 (18-6, 6-5)
Askew 4-13 0-0 10, Looney 1-2 2-2 4, Sparrow 4-7 1-2 9, Krantz 3-10 0-2 6, Hamilton 7-14 0-0 14, Minter 0-4 0-0 0, Pugh 2-3 5-5 9, McInnis 0-1 1-1 1, Bernath 2-4 6-7 10. Totals 23-58 15-19 63.

A Look at the Diamond Vols...

Vols take 2-out-of-3 to open season

Tennessee (1-0) used a two nine-run innings en route to a 34-8 season-opening victory over Georgia State (3-1) at DeKalb South Field. The run total and scoring margin both set UT single-game records, breaking the previous records set against East Tennessee State in 1988 when the Volunteers defeated the Buccaneers 31-6. Each Vol starter collected at least one hit as they pounded out 27 hits, one shy of the school record.

Vols with big days included Jeff Baumtrog who paced the Vols with five hits and six RBIs. Chris Burke also drove in six runs on a 4-for-4 day. Stevie Daniel collected four hits, including a grand slam, with five RBIs and four stolen bases. Justin Parker also drove in four runs on four hits.

In addition to the 27 hits, the Vols slugged four home runs and eight doubles to go along with nine stolen bases.

Vol starter Marlyn Tisdale (1-0) pitched five innings in picking up the victory. Tisdale allowed three runs (one earned) on six hits with nine strikeouts and two walks. After allowing two runs in the first inning, he settled down retiring nine of the next 10 batters he faced, including eight straight at one point.

The Tennessee Volunteers (2-1) split a doubleheader with Georgia State Panthers (4-2) at DeKalb South Field. The Panthers took the first game 13-8, while the Vols held on for a 4-3 10-inning victory in game two.

In game one, the Panthers built a 13-1 lead after five innings and held off a furious rally that saw the Vols score seven runs in the seventh and eight innings for a 13-8 victory.

Quenten Patterson (0-1) took the loss as he allowed six runs on seven hits in 3 1/3 innings, including giving up three home runs. Patterson looked strong in the first three innings, allowing only one run with six strikeouts.

Reliever Wyatt Allen could not stop the Panther on-slaught as he allowed seven runs in 1 1/3 innings on six hits. Only Amos Burdine was able to shutdown the Panthers as he tossed 3 1/3 shutout innings giving up one hit with five strikeouts.

Justin Parker slugged a three-run home run to pace the Vols' 12-hit attack. Left-hander Josh Perry (1-0) worked six innings for his first victory, while Brian Jones notched his first save pitching the final three innings for Georgia State.

In game two, the Vols put three-runs up in the first and were kept off the board until Brandon Hopkins' bases loaded sacrifice fly that plated Parker, who led off with a double, in the 10th inning that gave Tennessee the 4-3 victory.

Tennessee got eight strong innings from starter Jamie Bennett as he allowed three runs (two earned) on seven hits. Reliever Jeremy Brown (1-0) picked up his first win of the season, tossing two shutout innings while giving up one hit.

Parker added three hits and drove in two with a single in the first inning.

The Panthers also got a strong performance from Ryan Patrylo who worked eight innings, allowing three runs (two earned) on nine hits. Steven Kidd (0-1) suffered the loss.

In the first game of the Franklin Life Classic in Charleston, S.C., the Vols claimed an 8-4 triumph over the Richmond Spiders behind Jamie Bennett's 10 strikeouts. Bennett gave up five hits and one run while Richie Jenkins slugged his first home run of the season with two outs in the fifth that extended the Tennessee lead to 6-1.

The Vols benefitted from three Spider errors in jumping out to a 5-1 lead. After the home run by Jenkins the Vols got runs in the seventh and eighth inning to take a 8-1 lead into the ninth where they needed two pitcher sto close the deal behind Jeremy Brown for his first save of the season.

You can find the results of the remaining two games from Charleston by checking our website at "*utsports.com*."

—Jeff Muir

GAME 1

Tennessee 391 109 056 -- 34 27 3
Georgia St. 200 010 050 -- 8 10 4
Tisdale, Adams (6), Brummitt (8), Curtiss (9) and Bibee, Fox (6). Edmondson, Boughey (2), Singleton (2), Ward (6), S. Kidd (8), Patience (9), Hopper (9) and B. Kidd, West (8). W-Tisdale (1-0). L-Edmondson (0-1). HR-UT-Parker (1), Ross (1), Daniel (1), Baker (1). GSU-Smith (1). Att-234. T-3:39.

GAME 2

Tennessee 000 100 430 -- 8 12 2
Georgia St. 010 750 00x -- 13 14 2
Patterson, Allen (4), Burdine (6) and Bibee, Huddleston (9). Perry, Jones (7) and B. Kidd. W-Perry (1-0). L-Patterson (0-1). Sv-Jones (1). HR-UT-Parker (2). GSU-Vandiver 2 (3), Smith (2). T-3:15. Att-306.

GAME 3

Tennessee 300 000 000 1 -- 4 11 1
Georgia St. 100 010 100 0 -- 3 8 3
Bennett, Brown (9) and Huddleston, Bibee (10). Patrylo, S. Kidd (9) and B. Kidd. W-Brown (1-0). L-S. Kidd (0-1). HR-GSU-Paden (1). T-2:37.

GAME 4

Richmond 010 000 003 -- 4 5 4
Tennessee. 023 010 11x -- 8 11 2
Bennett, Allen (9), Adams (9), Brown (9), and Fox. Dwyer, Givens (5) and Lamberg. W-Bennett (1-0). L-Dwyer (0-1). HR-RU-Jackson (1), UT-Jenkins (1). T-3:00. Att-275.

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Faces in Big Orange Country

One of three Vols from the state of Tennessee, **Charles Hathaway** has had to overcome a great deal to continue his basketball career. Five games into his sophomore campiagn, Hathaway discovered he had a blood clot in his right shoulder and would require season-ending surgery. This season, Hathaway has shown some signs of what still can be a promising career. He is still trying to regain his form and confidence to go along with his stamina to play at the SEC level. The Nashville native has played in every game this season averaging 5.5 ppg and 4.0 rpg. Hathaway's biggest game this season came against Pittsburgh when he had 11 points, seven rebounds and three blocked shots. The Arts and Science major has two more years of eligibility left after receiving a redshirt from last season.

As one of five softball players who have been at Tennessee since the program's inception, senior **Kelli Fitzgerald** is hoping that her final campaign will result in a first-ever SEC championship and a berth in the NCAA Tournament for the Lady Vols. Last season, the Lakewood, Calif., native was selected second team All-Region and second team All-SEC after once again starting all 68 games at second base. As the only player to participate in all 203 games of the school's history, Fitzgerald led the Lady Vols with a .356 average and ranked first for UT in slugging percentage (.495), runs (43) and doubles (23) in 1998. A sport management major, her name is listed prominently throughout the career records section, as the 5-4 senior appears in the top three in 15 of 17 categories.

Senior point guard **Kellie Jolly** has her sights set on an unprecedented fourth consecutive NCAA Championship during the 1998-99 season. Jolly is averaging eight points per game and leads the team in assists this year with just over four per contest. The Sparta, Tenn., native currently ranks sixth on the career assist list behind former teammate Michele Marciniak. A 1995 graduate of White County High School, Jolly will earn a degree in secondary education and aspires to become a high school or college basketball coach following the conclusion of her playing career. Additionally, she is currently planning a May wedding in her hometown when she will marry Jon Harper.

Richie Jenkins is the young man who is holding down one of the Vols most famous corners this season. After playing behind Eduardo Figueroa and Travis Copley, the Sweetwater product enters his senior campaign as the man on the hot seat. After a two-year stint at Wallace State Community College in Alabama, Jenkins returned to home to play for the Vols. A local high school product who played for Sweetwater High, Jenkins' 1996 Wallace State team was the state runner-up for the Alabama Junior College State Championship. Last season, Jenkins played in 22 games for the Vols earning a start in two of those contest. He hit .292 on the season with one home run and three RBIs and made 45 putouts with one assist without an error.

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The Last Word...

Sam Bartholomew and the 1939 Team

When Haywood Harris, Rob Hardin, Donnell Field and I prepared daily vignettes about each of the 75 years the Vols had played on Shields-Watkins Field back in the summer of 1996, here's what we said about the 1939 team:

Was this Tennessee's greatest defensive team? To look at the figures you'd have to think so. The Vols did not surrender a point during the regular season, outscoring 10 opponents 212-0. the last time this little defensive gem has been accomplished. The 1939 team holds NCAA season records for fewest points allowed per game (0) and fewest rushing and passing yards per game (0, on both counts). The Vols also achieved their first No. 1 ranking on Oct. 24 that season holding the AP top spot for four weeks, through Nov. 14.

On Oct. 21 against Alabama, Tennessee tailback Johnny Butler scored on a 56-yard run against Alabama that is considered one of the greatest in Vol history. Headed toward the south end of Shields-Watkins Field and running behind the No. 2 line, Butler hit off tackle and then zigged and zagged his way for the score. No Alabama player touched him.

The Vols won their second of three consecutive SEC Championships. Blocking back Sam Bartholomew once again won the Jacobs Trophy as the SEC's best blocker and wingback Bob Foxx was the Nashville Banner's SEC Most Valuable Player. Guard Bob Suffridge, tackle Abe Shires, guard Ed Molinski and tailback George Cafego earned All-America honors. Molinski, center Jim Rike, Shires, Cafego and Foxx earned All-SEC laurels. The Vols made their first of two trips to the Rose Bowl, losing 14-0 to Southern Cal.

Sam Bartholomew was the captain of that 1939 team, one which did not give up a point in the regular season and still didn't win the national crown. That circumstance amazes many Vol fans, particularly those who saw this team play.

That golden era may seem like the Dark Ages of Tennessee football to many of us, but there was some darn good action on the gridiron by Major Neyland's teams. The Vols were 43-7-3 in Neyland's second tenure as Vol head coach from 1936-40 and 33-2 from 1938-40.

Sam Bartholomew was a two-time Jacobs Trophy Award winner back in 1938 and 1939 and defined the blocking back position for future generations of Vol players.

That's why there was more than the usual bit of sadness when Harris asked me to write the story for our fax expander about Bartholomew's death. Here's what came out, in as concise terms as I could put it:

FORMER VOL CAPTAIN SAM BARTHOLOMEW DIES IN KINGSPORT, SERVICES SET WEDNESDAY: *Sam Bartholomew Sr., captain of Tennessee's 1939 Rose Bowl team and grandfather of Tennessee fullback Will Bartholomew, died Sunday in Kingsport. Bartholomew, 81, was a blocking back on Bob Neyland-coached Tennessee teams from 1937-39 and won the Jacobs Blocking Trophy as the SEC's best blocker in 1938 and 1939. He worked at Eastman Kodak Company in Kingsport from 1940 to 1982, retiring as General Superintendent.*

Services are set for 2 p.m. Wednesday (Feb. 17), at First Presbyterian Church in Kingsport, with visitation to follow the service. Private military graveside rites will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Kingsport. Memorials may be made to the Tennessee Mental Health Association for Alzheimer's research.

"While at UT," Knoxville News-Sentinel sportswriter Roland Julian wrote Feb. 16, "Bartholomew served as president of the senior class and and was president of Sigma Chi fraternity. He was one of eight seniors selected as Torchbearer. Besides lettering in football three seasons and leading the Vols to the 1940 Rose Bowl, Bartholomew also lettered three years in track.

"After playing the 1941 season with the Philadelphia Eagles, he entered the U. S. Army in World War II as an officer and advanced to the level of major. He played on an All-Army football team that played five games against NFL teams. He served in Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

"Once his playing days ended, he officiated 15 years as head linesman and back judge in college football, and officiated five bowl games. He was elected to the West Virginia Hall of Fame in 1963. He had competed in football and track at Greenbrier (W. Va.) Military School in 1935, the year before he entered UT."

In the late 1930s, it was a great time to be a Vol fan, just like it is today. Watching some of the vintage film of that era, you have to be impressed with the way those guys played, in the days before face masks and the equipment we see today.

Tennessee football was important to Vol fans then, just as it is now. Sam Bartholomew was another in a long line of Vol players who set a standard for those who would follow him. Whenever you see a Vol make a key block to spring a teammate for a long run or make a solid tackle in the open field, remember the way Sam Bartholomew and friends played a long, long time ago.

And think how great it was, and is, to be a Tennessee Volunteer.

— Tom Mattingly

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